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COMMENTS:

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/905,464³
BALING BAG FOR AUTOMATIC BAG LOADING
Art Unit: 3720
Our Reference: 59159-9

Attached is a translation of Swiss Patent No. 187,705. Also attached is a Proposed Amendment for the above-referenced patent application.

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Patent Specification

Published on February 16, 1937

Request submitted: February 26, 1936, 8 PM
Patent registered: November 30, 1936**Main Patent**

Christian Christoffel, [of] Rodels (Graubuenden, Switzerland)

Paper Bag

It is common in most sales and specialty stores to hang paper bags in a stacked bundle on a nail in the wall. As such, the paper bags hang stacked on top of each other and each individual paper bag remains completely closed after being torn from the nail. Quickly opening the closed paper bag is achieved most effectively by blowing it open, which actually has become common practice everywhere. Blowing into the paper bag is, however, most unhygienic and will be eliminated by the following invention which creates a paper bag that will automatically open when torn off the nail.

For this purpose the paper bag is folded flat and one of the sides is folded against the bottom and the entire bag is folded lengthwise. In doing this, the fold will run through the place for hanging near its opening. Thus when the bottom of the bag is grasped and pulled downwards at an angle, the bag automatically opens.

The [attached] drawing shows an example of the use of the invention. It shows:

- Figure 1 – a side view of a stack of paper bags hung on a nail
- Figure 2 – a view of Figure 1 from the front,
- Figure 3 – a view of Figure 2 from above,
- Figure 4 – a side view of a stack of paper bags hung on a nail with a paper bag in the process of being torn from the nail and partially opened,
- Figure 5 – a view of Figure 4 from above and
- Figure 6 – a side view of a stack of paper bags illustrating a variation.

As is illustrated in the drawing, a paper bag possesses a bottom (1). Folded up, a paper bag forms two sides (2,3) that lie flatly on top of each other and against which the bottom (1) is folded flatly. The paper bag's place for hanging is located in the middle of the upper edge of side (3) in the form of a hole (4). At the exact place where the hole is located, side (2) has a notch (5).

The paper bag is equipped with a fold (6) that runs lengthwise through the hole (4) so that as seen from above in a cross section two sides are formed that are at an angle to each other. The fold (6) is shown in figures 1 through 5 so that the side (3) with the hole (4) is on the inside (concave side) and the side (2) with the notch (5) is on the outside (convex side). The bottom (1) of the paper bag is folded as is shown in figures 1, 2 and 4 flatly against the outside of side (2). A paper bag that is folded in such a manner is for certain to be hung on a nail (7) on a wall or something similar. It will be in such a manner as to have it's concave side placed against the wall and the side (2) with the notch (5) as well as the bottom (1) facing outwards. In order for the paper bags, that have been bundled together and folded at an angle, to retain their shape it is important to hang them on a nail over a three-sided block (8) on the wall or over the edge of a piece of furniture, etc. The angled of the folded paper bags can also be retained by hanging the paper bags on a hook (9) that is pointed downwards at an angle as is shown in figure 6. Using this variation the folded bottoms (1) of the paper bags are folded against the side (3) which is facing the wall.

In order to produce the effect of the paper bag opening upon removal (when using the described method of hanging), the paper bag is grasped by the upper edge of the bottom (1) and pulled downwards at an angle as is illustrated in figure 4. Before the hole (4) rips through, the bottom moves perpendicularly to the sides (2, 3). As a result, the bag opens due to the rigidity of the folds (6) on the sides (2, 3) as is illustrated in figures 4 and 5. With care it is possible to open the paper bag completely before the hole (4) rips through. In the variation depicted in figure 6, the paper bag is grasped in the middle of its lower edge and is pulled sharply downwards at an angle. The results are the same as in the previously described example.

Patent Claim

A paper bag is characterized by the following features: a sack is folded flatly with the bottom folded against one of the sides, the entire bag is folded lengthwise, and the crease is running through the hole which is located at the upper edge where the bag opens. With this configuration, when the bottom of the bag is grasped and pulled downwards at an angle the bag automatically opens.

Subclaims

1. A paper bag, according to the patent claim, is defined by the fact that as seen from above in a cross section the two top edges are at an angle to each other turned towards the wall on which the paper bags are hung. The bottom of the paper bag is located on the side that is facing away from the wall.
2. A paper bag, according to the patent claim, is defined with the side facing the wall as having a hole for hanging centered in the crease and the side not facing the wall having a notch opposite of the hole.

Christian Christoffel. Representative: Rebmann, Kupfer & Co., Zurich.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

1. (Amended) A bag for use with an automated bag-filling apparatus, comprising:
- an elongated front panel and back panels;
 - an elongated flat back panel;
 - elongated left and right side panels adjoining the front and back panels;
 - a closed bottom panel joining the front and back panels with the left and right side panels;
 - an open top portion;
 - an aperture in the back panel proximate the top portion with the back panel having a continuous perimeter surrounding the aperture; and
 - a cut-away portion in the front panel proximate the top portion to expose the aperture wherein the aperture is in the back panel only.